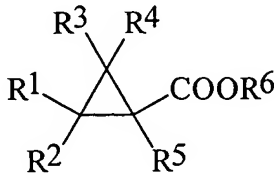
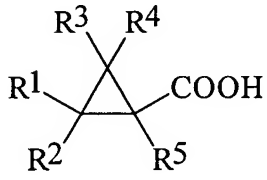
Please amend the claims as follows:

A1 Claim 1. A process for producing a cyclopropanecarboxylate of formula (1):



(1),

which process comprises reacting cyclopropanecarboxylic acid of formula (2):



(2),

with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

R^6OH (3),

in the presence of

a zirconium compound,

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an alkyl group which may be substituted,

an alkenyl group which may be substituted,

an alkynyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted; and

R^6 represents

A1 an alkyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted.

A2 Claim 6. (Amended) A process according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein the zirconium compound is a compound represented by formula (4):

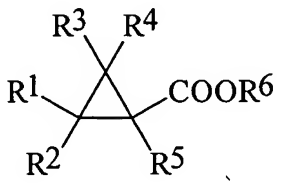
$$M(O)_m(X)_n(Y)_{4-2m-n} \qquad (4)$$

wherein M represents zirconium; X and Y independently represent a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, an acetylacetonate group, an acyloxy group, an amino group which may be substituted with up to two alkyl groups, or a cyclopentadienyl group; and m is equal to 0 or 1, and n is equal to 0, 1, or 2.

A3 Claim 9. (Amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein the zirconium compound is zirconium tetrachloride, a zirconocene compound, or zirconium alkoxide.

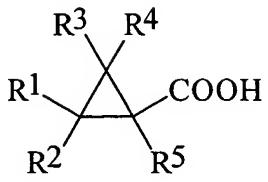
Please add the following claims:

A4 Claim 18. (New) A process for producing a cyclopropanecarboxylate of formula (1):



(1),

which process comprises reacting cyclopropanecarboxylic acid of formula (2):



(2),

A 4 Cont

with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

R^6OH (3),

in the presence of

a catalyst compound comprising an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements,

wherein either R^1 or R^2 represents 2,2-dichlorovinyl or 2-methyl-1-propenyl group, and the other group represents a hydrogen atom,

R^3 and R^4 represent a methyl group,

R^5 represents a hydrogen atom, and

R^6 represents

an alkyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted.

Claim 19. (New) A process according to claim 18, wherein

R^6 represents

an alkyl group, which may be substituted with a member selected from

a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group,

an alkenyl group, a haloalkenyl group,

an alkynyl group,

A 4 Cont

an aryl or heterocyclic group which may be substituted with at least one member selected from:

an alkyl group, a haloalkyl group,

an alkoxy group, a haloalkoxy group,

an alkoxyalkyl group,

an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group,

an aryl group, an aryoxy group,

a haloaryloxy group,

an aralkyl group,

an acyl group,

a haloacyloxyalkyl group,

an amino group, and a halogen atom; or

R^6 represents:

a 1-, or 2-indanyl group which may be substituted with an alkynyl group or an aryl or heteraryl group;

a cycloalkenyl group substituted with at least one member selected from an oxo group, an alkyl group, an alkenyl and an alkynyl group; or

an aryl group which may be substituted with a phenyl, an alkynyl group, an acyl group, halogen atom, an alkoxy group, or an alkyl group.

Claim 20. (New) A process according to claim 19, wherein

R^6 represents

A4 Aont an (C1-C10)alkyl group, which may be substituted with a member selected from

a halogen atom, a cyano group, a nitro group,

an (C2-C5)alkenyl group, a halo(C2-C5)alkenyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkynyl group,

an (C6-C14)aryl or heterocyclic group which may be substituted with at least one member selected from:

an (C1-C14)alkyl group, a halo(C1-C14) alkyl group,

an (C1-C4)alkoxy group, a halo(C1-C4)alkoxy group,

an (C1-C4)alkoxy(C1-C14)alkyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkenyl group, an (C2-C5)alkynyl group,

an (C6-C14)aryl group, an (C6-C14)aryoxy group,

a halo(C6-C14)aryloxy group,

an (C7-C8)aralkyl group,

an (C1-C2)acyl group,

a haloacyloxy(C1-C14)alkyl group,

an amino group, and a halogen atom; or

R^6 represents:

a 1-, or 2-indanyl group which may be substituted with an (C2-C5)alkynyl group or an (C6-C14)aryl or 5-membered heteroaryl group;

a cycloalkenyl group substituted with at least one member selected from an oxo group, an (C1-C14)alkyl group, an (C2-C5)alkenyl and an (C2-C5)alkynyl group; or

AY cont

an (C6-C14)aryl group which may be substituted with a phenyl, an (C2-C5)alkynyl group, a (C1-C2)acyl group, a halogen atom, a (C1-C4)alkoxy group, or a (C1-C14)alkyl group.

Claim. 21. (New) A process according to claim 18, 19 or 20, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound.

Claim 22. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound having Lewis acidity.

Claim 23. (New) A process according to claim 21, wherein the catalyst compound is a compound represented by formula (4):

$$M(O)_m(X)_n(Y)_{4-2m-n} \qquad (4)$$

wherein M represents an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements; X and Y independently represent a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, an acetylacetonate group, an acyloxy group, an amino group which may be substituted with up to two alkyl groups, or a cyclopentadienyl group; and m is equal to 0 or 1, and n is equal to 0, 1, or 2.

A4 cont

Claim 24. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein M represents zirconium.

Claim 25. (New) A process according to claim 23, wherein M represents hafnium or titanium.

Claim 26. (New) A process according to claim 24, wherein the zirconium compound is zirconium tetrachloride, a zirconocene compound, or zirconium alkoxide.

Claim 27. (New) A process according to claim 25, wherein the hafnium or titanium compound is hafnium or titanium halide, a

hafnium or titanium alkoxide, or an amide compound of hafnium or titanium.

A4 cont

Claim 28. (New) A process according to claim 18, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is a primary alcohol.

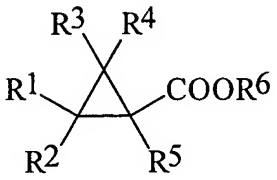
Claim 29. (New) A process according to claim 19, wherein the monohydroxy compound is a compound of formula (3), wherein R^6 represents a methyl or ethyl group substituted with at least one member selected from the aryl group which may be substituted, a cyano group, and the alkynyl group.

Claim 30. (New) A process according to claim 19, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is 3-phenoxybenzyl alcohol.

Claim 31. (New) A process according to claim 20, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-(2-propenyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one.

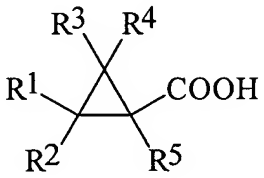
Claim 32. (New) A process according to claim 20, wherein the monohydroxy compound of formula (3) is 4-hydroxy-3-methyl-2-(2-propynyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one.

Claim 33. (New) A process for producing a cyclopropanecarboxylate of formula (1):



(1),

which process comprises reacting cyclopropanecarboxylic acid of formula (2):



(2),

with a monohydroxy compound of formula (3):

R^6OH (3),

in the presence of

a catalyst compound comprising an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements,

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an alkyl group which may be substituted,

an alkenyl group which may be substituted,

an alkynyl group which may be substituted, or

an aryl group which may be substituted; and

R^6 represents

3-methyl-2-(2-propenyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one-4-yl group, or 3-methyl-2-(2-propeynyl)-2-cyclopentene-1-one-4-yl group.

Claim 34. (New) A process according to claim 33, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an alkyl group,

an alkenyl group,

an alkynyl group, or

an aryl group, and

wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl groups may be independently substituted with at least one member selected from

a halogen atom, an alkoxy group,

an alkoxy-carbonyl group,

a haloalkoxy-carbonyl group,

an aryl group,

a halocycloalkylidene group,

an alkoxyimino group,

an alkylsulfonyl group,

an alkylsulfonyloxy group, and

a hydroxysulfinyl group.

Claim 35. (New) A process according to claim 34, wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, and R^5 independently represent

a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom,

an (C1-C10)alkyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkenyl group,

an (C2-C5)alkynyl group, or

an (C6-C14)aryl group, and

wherein the alkyl, alkenyl, and alkynyl groups may be independently substituted with at least one member selected from

a halogen atom, an (C1-C4)alkoxy group,

an (C1-C4)alkoxy-carbonyl group,

a halo(C1-C4)alkoxy-carbonyl group,

an (C6-C14)aryl group,

a halo(C3-C5)cycloalkylidene group,

an (C1-C3)alkoxyimino group,

an (C1-C4)alkylsulfonyl group,

an (C1-C4)alkylsulfonyloxy group, and

a hydroxysulfinyl group.

Claim 36. (New) A process according to claim 34 or 35, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound.

Claim 37. (New) A process according to claim 36, wherein the catalyst compound is a zirconium, hafnium or titanium compound having Lewis acidity.

A-4 cont

Claim 38. (New) A process according to claim 36, wherein the catalyst compound is a compound represented by formula (4):

$$M(O)_m(X)_n(Y)_{4-2m-n} \qquad (4)$$

wherein M represents an element of Group 4 of the Periodic Table of Elements; X and Y independently represent a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, an acetylacetonate group, an acyloxy group, an amino group which may be substituted with up to two alkyl groups, or a cyclopentadienyl group; and m is equal to 0 or 1, and n is equal to 0, 1, or 2.

Claim 39. (New) A process according to claim 38, wherein M represents zirconium.

Claim 40. (New) A process according to claim 38, wherein M represents hafnium or titanium.

Claim 41. (New) A process according to claim 39, wherein the zirconium compound is zirconium tetrachloride, a zirconocene compound, or zirconium alkoxide.

Claim 42. (New) A process according to claim 40, wherein the hafnium or titanium compound is hafnium or titanium halide, a hafnium or titanium alkoxide, or an amide compound of hafnium or titanium.